

# REFUSE & RECYCLING

*The Greenbelt Way*



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

555 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

301-474-8004



# REFUSE INFORMATION

## GENERAL GUIDELINES

All regular garbage and trash must be tightly wrapped, or bagged, and placed in containers with tight fitting lids. The containers must be kept covered at all times and must also be:

- Maximum of 50 lbs. in weight.
- Situated on an all-weather surface such as concrete, asphalt, gravel, cinders, etc.
- Placed on the street side (single family homes) or service side (GHI homes) by 7:00 a.m. on your collection day. On Code Orange/Red days, materials should be set out by 6:30 a.m.
- Serviceable by an all-weather access route, minimum of 36 inches in width, and must be kept clear of snow, ice and debris. *During significant snow/ice storms, and the days immediately following, containers must be placed at the curb(single family homes) or adjacent to a cleared parking lot (GHI homes).*
- Easily visible to collectors.

## HOLIDAYS

Refuse and recycling is not collected on the following official city holidays:

New Year's Day  
Martin Luther King's Birthday  
President's Day  
Memorial Day  
Independence Day  
Labor Day  
Veterans Day  
Thanksgiving Day  
Day after Thanksgiving  
Christmas Day

All holiday refuse/recycling schedules are posted in the Greenbelt News Review, on the Greenbelt Municipal Channel 71, and at the city's website at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov) the week before the holiday.

***Refuse is collected once a week in Greenbelt. Twice a week collection is available at an additional cost. For information, call 301-474-8004.***



# SPECIAL TRASH

**GHI Homes:** Special trash items must be placed in your yard on the service side. Items will be collected with your regular trash. **Call 301-474-8004 by 12 noon the day before your collection day to request a pickup.**

**Detached Homes:** Special trash items must be placed at the curb. Items will be collected with your regular trash. You do not need to call for a pickup.

Special trash includes furniture, bedding, moving debris and other miscellaneous items.

- Small items must be bagged, boxed or bundled.
- Items must weigh less than 50 lbs.
- Larger items must be broken down and bundled in less than 4 foot lengths.  
(Furniture that is put out for collection can be kept intact.)

**\*\*Latex paint can be collected as special trash. However, the paint must be completely dried. Oil based paints are hazardous waste and cannot be collected as special trash.**

***Please consider donating usable household items such as furniture, small appliances and clothing to be reused by others. Call 301-474-8308 – or check the city website at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov) for a list of organizations. Some organizations will pick up at your home; others will ask that you bring items in. Also see: Donation Drop-Off.***

**The City reserves the right to assess a fee for unusually large quantities of special trash.**

## **The following items CAN be collected for a separate fee:**

A fee will be charged to cover labor and disposal costs. Call 301-474-8004 to make arrangements for these collections.

- Dirt and rocks
- Tires
- Railroad ties
- Roof shingles
- Wood Fencing
- Cinderblock and bricks
- Concrete, plaster or drywall
- Construction/Remodeling debris
- Logs, stumps or branches larger than 12 inches in diameter or longer than 4 feet in length.

## **The following items CAN NOT be collected:**

- Automotive parts such as engines, transmissions, doors, fenders, hoods, etc.
- Hazardous Waste
- Contractor's debris

*(If you have a contractor working in your home or yard, they are responsible for hauling away all debris associated with their work.)*

# HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Prince George's County has established a permanent collection site for Household Hazardous Waste disposal at the Brown Station Road Landfill in Upper Marlboro. The site is open from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. every Sunday. Household hazardous waste disposal is FREE for county residents. *Examples of hazardous materials: household cleaners, gasoline, kerosene, pesticides, fertilizers, oil based paints and varnishes. Fluorescent bulbs are also accepted at this site.* For further information about hazardous disposal at this site call 301-883-5045 or visit [www.co.pg.md.us/government/agencyindex/DER/](http://www.co.pg.md.us/government/agencyindex/DER/).

## APPLIANCES AND METALS

Appliances and metal items (fencing, bicycles, etc.) are collected every Friday except during holiday weeks. Call 301-474-8004 before 12 p.m. on Thursday to schedule a collection.



## RECYCLING INFORMATION

### GENERAL GUIDELINES

Recycling must be placed at the curb (single family homes) or service side - visible from the walkway - (GHI homes) by 7 a.m. on your collection day. On Code Orange/Red days, materials should be set out by 6:30 a.m.

### PAPER PRODUCTS

*Place in paper grocery bags or bundle and set beside your recycling container.* (No plastic bags! Paper bags are available at grocery stores – just ask for paper instead of plastic.) Newspapers, Inserts, Magazines, Catalogs, Telephone Books, Unwanted Mail, Computer & Office Paper, Paper Cereal & Food Product Boxes (No plastic-coated boxes), Cardboard Boxes (Boxes 3 feet or less, must be flattened and tied. Larger boxes must be cut to size or taken to a Recycling Drop-Off Center.)

### PLASTIC, GLASS AND CANS

*Place in your recycling bin.*

CANS (aluminum, steel and bi-metal), GLASS (clear, brown and green), PLASTIC – narrow neck plastic containers such as milk and water jugs, beverage containers, salad dressing bottles, detergent bottles, shampoo bottles, etc.

- Rinse all cans, jars and containers before placing them in your bin
- Remove lids and caps
- Labels are OK



## THE FOLLOWING ITEMS CANNOT BE TAKEN WITH RECYCLING:

- Plastic bags (Can be returned to your local grocery store)
- Plastic wide mouth tubs (margarine, yogurt, cottage cheese or deli containers)
- Plastic salad bar containers
- Plastic microwave meal trays
- Plastic pipes, lawn furniture, flower pots, trash cans, buckets or laundry baskets
- Mirror or window glass
- Drinking glasses, cups, plates, cookware, pottery or ceramics
- Light bulbs
- Pizza boxes, paper towels, wax/paper milk and juice containers
- Styrofoam
- Metal household items (aluminum chairs, siding, furniture, etc.)
- Pesticide containers or other containers that once held toxic or hazardous materials
- Plastic wrap
- Plastic toys or gadgets

**Need a recycling bin?**  
**Call the**  
**Recycling Office at**  
**301-474-8308.**

## RECYCLING DROP-OFF CENTERS

### BUDDY ATTICK PARK-LOWER PARKING LOT

Accepted Items: Newspaper, mixed paper, magazines, cardboard, bottles and cans, car batteries, antifreeze, and used motor oil and filters.

### HANOVER PARKWAY

Accepted Items: Newspaper, mixed paper, magazines, cardboard, bottles and cans.

**DO NOT LEAVE TRASH AT THESE SITES!**



## ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

The City accepts electronics for recycling four times each year. Watch for ads in the Greenbelt News Review, Channel B-71, or [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov) announcing the dates.

Prince George's County accepts electronics for recycling every Sunday at the Brown Station Road Landfill in Upper Marlboro. The site is open from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Televisions are accepted at this site (up to 5 per resident). For further information on this site, call 301-883-5045 or visit [www.co.pg.md.us/government/agencyindex/DER/](http://www.co.pg.md.us/government/agencyindex/DER/).



# YARD WASTE COLLECTION

Yard waste in **paper bags and bins** is collected every Friday, except during holiday weeks. Bins must be marked or labeled as YARD WASTE. Free labels are available at the Public Works Office. (Yard waste in plastic bags is no longer collected!)

**GHI Homes:** Call 301-474-8004 by 12 noon on Thursday to schedule a Friday collection. Place yard waste in your yard on the service side by 7 a.m. Friday for collection. (Since you do not receive leaf vacuum collection, you can pick up 10 free bags each fall at the GHI Maintenance Facility.)

**Detached Homes:** Place yard waste at the curb by 7 a.m. on Friday. You do not need to call for a pickup.

- Branches and bamboo less than 2 inches in diameter must be tied with biodegradable twine in bundles less than four feet in length and two feet in diameter.
- Branches 2 to 6 inches in diameter can be chipped. Stack branches at the curb with ends facing in same direction. Call 301-474-8004 to schedule a chipper collection.
- Weeds and other invasive vines (such as English Ivy and bamboo roots) cannot be composted and should be placed with regular trash.
- Yard debris mixed with dirt, stones or trash will not be collected.
- Yard waste bags, bins, tied bundles and branch sections must weigh less than 50 pounds.

## LEAF VACUUM SERVICE

November 1 thru January 15 (Detached Homes Only)

- Rake leaves to the curb – keeping piles away from cars and storm drains.
- Remove tree limbs, rocks and other debris. This can damage the equipment and cause injury.
- Collection schedule will be advertised on [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov), on Channel B-71 and in the Greenbelt News Review. Collection signs will also be placed in neighborhoods.

**DO NOT RAKE LEAVES INTO STORM DRAINS**



**After January 15<sup>th</sup>, loose leaves will no longer be collected by the leaf vacuum. All leaves must be placed in paper bags or bins for collection.**



# HOLIDAY TREE COLLECTION

**Holiday trees are collected in January.**

- Remove metal base stands, nails and all decorations (including tinsel).
- Take trees to a posted collection site. Collection sites are listed on [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov), on Channel B-71 and in the Greenbelt News Review.

**FREE MULCH** – Mulch from composted leaves, trees, branches and other yard waste is available at Northway Field free of charge to residents

## DONATION DROP-OFF

Held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month, from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

The American Rescue Workers accepts donations of usable household goods such as clothing, furniture, small appliances, curtains, towels, bedding, books, puzzles and toys. The truck is located in the parking lot between the City Offices and the Community Center.

Donations are also accepted by other organizations. Some organizations will pick up at your home; others will ask that you bring items to them. Call 301-474-8308 or visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov) for a list of organizations.

### *Ever wonder what becomes of your recyclables?*

**PRODUCTS MADE FROM RECYCLED PAPER:** Newsprint, paperboard, tissues, paper towels and napkins, containerboard and printing/writing paper.

**PRODUCTS MADE FROM RECYCLED PLASTIC:** Drainage pipes, toys, carpet, fiberfill for pillows and sleeping bags, and cassette casings.

**PRODUCTS MADE FROM RECYCLED GLASS:** New glass containers, fiberglass and “glasphalt” for highway construction

**MOST RECYCLED ALUMINUM IS USED TO MANUFACTURE NEW CANS.**

# Produce Less Waste by Practicing the 3'Rs

## Reduce - Reuse – Recycle



### REDUCE

Waste reduction means throwing less material away. Some examples of waste reduction are:

- Buy only what you need
- Avoid over-packaged products
- Purchase durable, long-lasting goods
- Purchase items in bulk or economy sizes to save on packaging  
(It also saves on the cost of the goods since you pay for product, not packaging.)
- Avoid goods packaged in non-recyclable materials
- Purchase products and packaging that are as free of toxins as possible

### REUSE

Reusing items, by repairing them, donating them to charity and community groups, or selling them – also reduces waste. Reusing products, when possible, is even better than recycling because the item does not have to be reprocessed before it can be used again.

- Use cloth towels, napkins and rags instead of disposable paper products which cannot be recycled
- Avoid using disposable products such as cups, plates, cutlery and napkins
- Reuse plastic or paper grocery bags – or use cloth or mesh bags to hold your purchases
- Reuse emptied boxes and containers
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn. Clippings return nutrients to the soil and avoid the work of bagging

### RECYCLE

Recycling turns materials that would otherwise become waste into valuable resources. In addition, it generates a host of environmental, financial, and social benefits.

- Conserves resources for our children's future
- Prevents emissions of many greenhouse gases and water pollutants
- Saves energy
- Supplies valuable materials to industry
- Creates jobs
- Stimulates the development of greener technologies
- Reduces the need for new landfills

**Buying Recycled Products:** There's more to recycling than setting out your recyclables at the curb. In order to make recycling economically feasible, we must buy recycled products and packaging. When we buy recycled products, we create an economic incentive for recyclable materials to be collected, manufactured, and marketed as new products. Buying recycled has both economic and environmental benefits. Purchasing products made from or packaged in recycled materials saves resources for future generations.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON RECYCLING CALL 301-474-8308**

